

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Figure 2(b) has been amended to show the low friction coating layer 21a described at, e.g., page 13, lines 13-16 of the specification.

REMARKS

By this amendment, Applicants have amended Figure 2(b) to show the low friction coating layer 21a described at, e.g., page 13, lines 13-16 of the original specification and set forth in original claim 6.

Applicants have amended page 13, line 15 of the specification to include reference numeral 21a for the low friction coating layer, as now shown in Figure 2(b). Page 15, line 12 has been amended to correct a typographical error.

Applicants have amended the claims to more clearly define their invention. In particular, claim 1 has been amended to recite that the liquid fuel is a methanol aqueous solution or an ethanol aqueous solution (see, page 2, lines 5-8 of Applicants' specification), to recite that the container body includes a compressed gas chamber for accommodating an oxygen-free compressed gas, at least a major portion of the compressed gas chamber being arranged side-by-side with the liquid fuel chamber (see, Figure 2(b), page 10, lines 7-10 and page 11, lines 13-15 of Applicants' specification), to recite the compressed gas in the compressed gas chamber imparts a back pressure on the liquid fuel in the liquid fuel chamber via the partition wall (see, e.g., original claim 9), to recite that the material of low frictional coefficient is selected from the group consisting of polytetrafluoroethylene and diamond-like carbon (see, e.g., page 4, lines 21-22, page 14, lines 10-12 of Applicants' specification and original claim 7 and 8), and to recite that the sliding surfaces of the liquid fuel chamber and the partition wall member are free from lubricating oil (see, page 11, lines 8-11 and page 16, lines 19-21 of Applicants' specification). Applicants have canceled claims 2, 3 and 9-24 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 25 and 26 have been added to define further aspects of the present invention. Claim 25 is supported by, e.g., Figure 2(b) and the

disclosure at page 10, lines 7-10 of Applicants' specification. Claim 26 is supported by the disclosure at page 12, lines 13-18 of Applicants' specification.

In view of the amendment to Figure 2(b), reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings in numbered section 1 of the Office Action are requested.

In view of the amendment to page 15, line 12 of the specification, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the disclosure in numbered section 2 of the Office Action are requested.

Applicants traverse the rejections in numbered sections 4, 6 and 7 of the Office Action for the reasons set forth on pages 9-11 of the amendment filed June 22, 2009.

In addition, it is submitted the Saulle patent does not disclose that the container is for a fuel cell, does not disclose that the fluid product held in the container should be a liquid fuel that is a methanol aqueous solution or an ethanol aqueous solution, does not disclose that the compressed gas should, in combination with the liquid fuel, be oxygen free, does not disclose that at least one of the sliding surfaces of the liquid fuel chamber and the partition wall member should be made of polytetrafluoroethylene or diamond-like carbon, does not disclose that the sliding surfaces should be free of lubricating oil, and does not disclose that the valve should have a portion configured to be connected with a fuel cell. Nor does Saulle disclose the features recited in new dependent claims 25 and 26.

Thus, for the reasons set forth in the amendment filed June 22, 2009 and the foregoing reasons, the presently claimed invention is patentable over Saulle alone or in combination with Deinzer et al. or Gupta.

Claims 6, 8, 11-14, 16-21, 23 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Saulle in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,033,940 to Baumann. Applicants traverse this rejection and request reconsideration thereof.

The Examiner has cited the Baumann patent as disclosing coating a piston surface with a diamond-like carbon. However, the piston in Baumann is a piston in a reciprocating high-pressure compressor. It is submitted the teachings in Baumann relating to a compressor would not have provided any reason to modify the piston of the container of Saulle.

Accordingly, claims 6-8 are patentable over the proposed combination of documents.

In view of the cancellation of claims 15-22, the rejection of these claims in numbered section 9 of the Office Action is moot.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, favorable reconsideration and allowance of all of the claims now in the application are requested.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (520.46388X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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